

THE GATEWAY

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CLIMBS, CLIMBS, EVERYWHERE A CLIMB Veteran climber Peter Williamson scales the rocky wall during a competition last weekend at the Urban Uprising Indoor Climbing Wall in the Butterdome.

NEAL WILDING

University presidents' new tuition proposal disappoints SU

CHLOÉ FEDIO
Deputy News Editor

While students are still waiting for the provincial government to announce a new tuition policy after the lengthy postsecondary education review process, Alberta's four universities have taken the initiative to draft their own proposal.

In a letter addressed to Minister of Advanced Education Dave Hancock on 1 March, presidents from the universities of Alberta, Calgary, Lethbridge and Athabasca University discussed their role in the review so far, and included a document entitled "Alberta's Universities Proposed Affordability Framework." The proposal suggested permanently resetting tuition levels

to the 2004/05 levels, which would increase annually by up to CPI plus 3.5 per cent.

University of Alberta Provost Carl Amrhein said the university presidents have contributed to discussions over the course of the review, and that consultations are a crucial part of the process.

"The Minister asked the four presidents for their advice, what they might imagine seeing," Amrhein said, adding that the proposal dealt with the three main points of the review—quality, accessibility and affordability—and not just tuition.

However, Students' Union Vice-President (External) and President-elect Samantha Power said the proposal focused on tuition, and sug-

gested no significant change to the current policy.

"The hugely disappointing thing is the advocating for the status quo," she said, adding that the proposed policy is "exactly what we have right now," which is unsustainable.

The Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS), to which the U of A SU belongs along with U of C and U of L, responded to the proposal yesterday, advocating for a rollback to 1999/2000 tuition levels, and suggesting that increases be no more than CPI minus 1 per cent.

Since last year's provincial rebate—paid by the government directly to institutions—was extended for a second year, students haven't had to pay more, and Power criticized the universities'

proposal for a lack of real change.

"The hugely disappointing thing is the advocating for the status quo."

SAMANTHA POWER,
SU VICE-PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL)

Amrhein declined to comment on the letter.

"I think it's inappropriate for me to comment on what I understood was a confidential letter to my boss before I've even talked to my boss about the letter," he said.

Though Hancock was unable to respond to the Gateway's questions, Michael Shields, Director of Communication in the Ministry of Advanced Education, said the government was not surprised by the proposal.

"It's not unusual for the university presidents to write the Minister of Advanced Education with their ideas and proposals; in fact, the Minister welcomes all input," Shields said.

PLEASE SEE TUITION • PAGE 3

Federal-provincial pilot project may let international students work off campus

SCOTT LILWELL
News Staff

International students may soon have better choices of finding employment, as the federal and provincial governments are working together to help foreign students apply for work visas that would allow them to find jobs off campus.

Alberta Advanced Education Minister Dave Hancock explained that a proposal is currently in the works.

"The Alberta government is in the process of finalizing an agreement with the federal government that will allow international students to work off-campus," Hancock said.

At present, international students are only allowed to find employment on campus; many of the U of A's 2200

international students work as research assistants or support staff, while others have found positions working at businesses on campus.

"Having these 6000 international students work off-campus jobs during the school year, Christmas breaks or summer holidays is a mutual benefit...."

DAVE HANCOCK, ALBERTA ADVANCED EDUCATION MINISTER

Hancock, however, feels that giving foreign students in Alberta

the opportunity to work with companies off-campus will provide an advantage for both the students and the province.

"Having these 6000 international students work off-campus jobs during the school year, Christmas breaks or summer holidays is a mutual benefit—it helps the students get the work experience they need, and enhances Albertans' understanding and appreciation of other cultures in the workplace," Hancock said.

While federal funding for the project has not yet been finalized, Hancock is hopeful that the program will be in place by spring, which means international students can find employment somewhere other than the U of A campus over the summer semester break.

PLEASE SEE INTERNATIONAL • PAGE 3

Council censures SU Exec

JAKE TROUGHTON
Senior News Editor

The Students' Union's Executive Committee had a rough night Tuesday, as Students' Council passed two motions to censure the five members, demanding from them a written apology.

A censure is essentially a legislative reprimand, so the motion conveys Council's disapproval of Executive Council's without carrying any legal consequences.

The first motion, to censure the Executive for violating Council's 16 February directive regarding approval of a settlement law suit over Travel Cuts, was passed after being debated in camera.

Science Councillor Steve Kirkham, who moved the censure motion, argued that Council had required the settlement agreement to be made public, but that the Executive only

made it available to students who came directly to the SU office, and that students weren't able to make a copy.

"The Executive Committee knowingly and willingly violated the directive set forth by this Council," Kirkham said while introducing the motion before the debate was moved in camera.

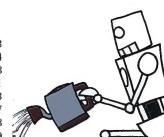
Kirkham admitted that the terms of the settlement barred it from being made publicly available, but suggested that the Executive could have informed Council of the issue and made an effort to get around it, instead of simply ignoring the directive passed by Council.

"They didn't even try," he said. "There was no good-faith attempt on the part of the Executive Committee to either inform councillors of this before it was done, or make any sort of an attempt to follow the directive set forth by Students' Council."

PLEASE SEE CENSURE • PAGE 3

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Pill-dispensing robots

They're the future of pharmacy, along with magnets, crystals, roots, herbs and other hippie nonsense.

OPINION, PAGE 7



That'll teach him

Jake Troughton made a prediction last week. It proved quite thoroughly wrong. Enjoy his humiliation.

SPORTS, PAGE 9

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Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper. The Gateway's
games of choice are Super Mario 64 DS and Mario
Kart 64.

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COUNCIL FORUM

Compiled by Scott Liliwall

With the school year winding to a close and the new Executive Committee gearing up to take power, Council met on Tuesday with a full night of business ahead of them.

THREE TIMES THE CENSURE?

The night opened with a call for a censure against the Executive for failing to make the Travel Cuts settlement agreement public, as directed by Council. The motion passed, as did a motion calling on the SU Executive to submit a formal letter of apology to both Council and the Gateway on the grounds that the Executive Committee did not provide Council with proper information on the issue or time to debate it.

Finally, to round out the trifecta, a vote was held on whether to censure Letter for his public statements regarding Travel Cuts. The measure was voted down 25-2. For a more detailed account of the three motions, see the story on page 1.

MONEYING

Tobias then made a presentation on the SU budget for 2005/06 academic year summarizing the main points of the proposed budget. The biggest issue was the restructuring plan for the PowerPlant, which involves turning the struggling business into a multi-service coffee shop, bar and buffet to increase revenue. In addition, the proposed budget outlined the creation of a new, full-time "advocacy" position, which would focus on academic and non-academic matters, as well as integrating Information Services and Academic Guidance Services in an effort to better help students. Amendments to the budget will be brought forward over the next two

student term for the Faculty of Law, and the other of \$3 per term for Campus Saint Jean students, are supposed to be managed by a committee of University students and faculty members. Those in favor of the motion argued that the faculties hadn't followed the rules set out in the bylaws, which require an annual report on spending. The opposition argued that it was inappropriate to pull the fees suddenly, with no information to how the fees were being used. In the end, it was decided that the Campus Saint Jean fee would be removed, as it was used for a scholarship fund that had since become self-sustaining, while the vote on the Faculty of Law fee was postponed until the next Council meeting, allowing two weeks to detail how the money was being spent.

MONEYING

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weeks, and voting will take place at the next Council meeting.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Letter was up next with two presentations to Council. The first was on the work done by an SU task force that focused on how to improve the relationship between the Students' Union and the students. The task force recommended increasing advocacy within the SU, and making its process more transparent and accountable to students by increasing feedback from the student population. Letter also briefly updated Council on a memorandum of understanding the SU had negotiated with the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation regarding the proposed Physical Activity Complex, though the defeat of the proposal in last week's plenary rendered the point moot.

BYE-BYE BYLAW COMMITTEE

Next on the menu were appointments, as a motion was brought forward to remove all five members of Council's Bylaw Committee, since the committee had been unable to meet over the past few weeks to fulfill their duties. The motion passed, and five new members were appointed. As well, one member was appointed to fill vacancies on both the Grant Allocation Committee and the University Policy Committee.

PHEASE!

Finally, a number of bills faced their first reading on Tuesday. The first was cal-

to reform the SU's political policy, and would require the Executive to create a new plan to focus the SU's advocacy efforts for the next school year.

A number of house-cleaning bills to remove bylaws thought to be redundant or obsolete were then voted on. A bill to repeal Bylaw 700, which sets out details for the salaries of SU members, met light resistance, as some people argued that eliminating the bylaw would mean that salaries would be decided upon within the budget, which was thought to be less rigorous than the bylaws. The bill's sponsor, Jason Tobias, countered that approval for the budget involved much debate and discussion, saying "Anything more rigorous and they'll have to shoot me in the face." The bill was eventually given its first reading.

A similar bill to strike down Bylaw 3200, which concerns salaries for elected employees, was voted in and read with little debate. The third such bill, to repeal the bylaw that controls the salary for the SU's General Manager, was met with spirited debate over whether the GM's job should be enshrined in bylaw, but it also eventually passed.

The final bill discussed proposed that only Council members would be allowed to send a reference question to the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board. However, a call for quorum was made, and there were no longer enough members present to continue dealing with legislation, at which point Council adjourned for the evening.

STREETERS

Tomorrow is the annual holiday when just about everyone you meet is drinking beer, dying clothing and menu items green, and telling you about their Irish grandparent.

What's your favourite St Patrick's Day memory?

Jenna Rogers
Science II



Lindsey Lovstrom
Genetics II



Marc Prokopluk
Science II



Dave Rosgen
Mining
Engineering IV

I got a phone call from a friend at about 1am saying that he got drunk off of green beer and vomited green. I was asleep, but it was a nice way to wake up, I guess.

In my high school we used to do this thing where all the guys got a shamrock, and if you could get one of the guys to talk to you, you would get his shamrock. The person at the end of the day that had the most shamrocks would get a prize or something.

Probably going to O'Byrnes with green paint all over me, holding two pitchers in my hands. I honestly can't remember too much about that night.

I guess it would be when I took off all my clothes one year and walked around the bar in my green boxers. Usually I can't remember my stories, but that's probably the top one.

Compiled and photographed by Scott Liliwall and Natalie O'Climenhaga

derail your study plans
this weekend



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Proposal indicates 'misunderstanding' between University and students: Power

TUITION • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Shields went on to say the letter has been added to the work of the three subcommittees that are working to create a new tuition policy for the spring, and will be included in deliberations.

"I'm not going to predetermine the outcomes of the work being done," Shields said. "It's important that we allow the process to unfold."

However, Power said the proposal has subverted the government's process, which is meant to include postsecondary stakeholders ranging from students to members of community-based learning programs, and brought the focus of the review to affordability, which is only part of the problem. And while the SU and the U of A administration have been working together to discuss an ideal policy, Power is unsure that the groups have

understood each others' needs.

"I think there's a misunderstanding on the part of the University administration as to what we're aiming for. Students have never advocated solely for tuition; we've never advocated for money to go soley towards students," Power said, pointing for the need of reform in the area of the quality of education.

And while the universities' proposal agrees that student debt shouldn't be a barrier to postsecondary access, it also says it hopes "to address the perception of high student debt," something Power thinks undermines the problem.

"It's disappointing for sure, that student debt is just some sort of 'perceived' problem," Power said, adding that most students would agree that debt "is a concrete problem here on this campus."

But despite the disappointment, Power hopes that the SU can continue to work with the administration and the government to create a better postsecondary system.

"Maybe with this document, it's made clear where our differences are more than ever before, and maybe we can move on from this point, and get something from the provincial government that will benefit both quality and affordability."

Amrhein was also keen on continuing talks with the SU, and went on to say that the proposal was made, ultimately, to aid the process.

"The universities are concerned about increasing quality and ensuring that there's a high-quality system available to students today and tomorrow, and that's what we think the proposal was all about," Amrhein said.

Off-campus work plan not finalized yet

INTERNATIONAL • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, Doug Weir, director of International Student Services, warned that it's still only a proposed plan, and nothing concrete has been set in motion yet.

This type of program has been announced in the past he explained, and despite student anticipation, has been stalled before. Furthermore, it still requires federal funding and approval before international students can begin working off campus.

"Once there is a program, the University will be behind it"

DOUG WEIR, U OF A DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES



JOB ACROSS BORDERS Alberta Advanced Education Minister Dave Hancock.

Even so, Weir said that the administration would be supportive of such a program if it did become a reality.

"Once there is a program, the University will be behind it. It will do what it needs to do to facilitate international student participation in the program," Weir said.

Hooman Hosseinkhanmazer, an international Master's student from Iran who is studying mechanical engineering at the U of A, thinks the program is important, and can give international students real-world

experience in their field of study.

"Many of the people who come here are grad students, and they're already qualified to do these jobs," he said. "I'm pretty sure that the experience you get while working and going to university at the same time is a really good experience. You can get really good feedback from the job and use it in class."

Hosseinkhanmazer went on to say that many other countries have programs that allow international students to work off-campus in addition to their studies.

He said that having opportunities at higher income employment, which is usually the case when job options broaden, can help international students deal with the costs of tuition, which are much higher than for Canadian students.

"I'm really positive about it, and I hope they do it," he said, adding that the program would likely encourage foreign students to study in Canada.

"If I can work in Australia, or in Germany, I guess I can work in Canada too," he concluded.

Lack of trust in Exec a problem, Tobias says

CENSURE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Jason Tobias expressed frustration over the decision, saying that it implies a distrust of the Executive by Council that needs to be addressed.

"There's no actual solution that's been presented; it's just, we've been very bad for pursuing a course of action which, presumably, Council at the end of the day approves of, because there's been no motion to turn around a decision that we've made," he said.

The second motion, from Engineering Councillor James Crossman, was also related to the meeting to approve the Travel Cuts settlement. It demanded that the Executive submit a letter of apology to both Council and the Gateway on the grounds that it didn't provide councillors with sufficient information regarding the settlement prior to the meeting, and that by scheduling the

meeting two hours before councillors who were running in the Executive election were forced to go on leave, the Executive didn't give Council enough time to debate the issue. According to the motion, these actions compromised councillors' ability to represent their constituents, Council's trust in the Executive, and "the Students' Union's effectiveness and legitimacy as an organization."

"The meeting was scheduled two hours in advance of what was essentially a guarantee of loss of quorum, and that's insufficient time to read the agreement we were voting on," Crossman said. "They could have scheduled the meeting for noon, or 9am, or the previous day. I really think they did us a disservice by not giving us enough time to debate the issue."

Tobias responded that the SU's lawyers had said discussion of the settlement should remain on an

executive-only level until after the February meeting, so it simply wasn't possible to give councillors an extended period of time to consider it.

"Sometimes, you're going to have to make decisions based upon trust, and based upon information that's presented to you off the cuff," he told Council. "Sometimes we need to make decisions based upon the best information we have available to us at the time. Is that ideal? No. Is that our job? Yes."

Nonetheless, the demand for an apology was passed 14-10. The news wasn't all bad for the Executive, though; a third motion, to censure President Graham Lettier for comments he made to the Gateway regarding the Travel Cuts settlement that may have violated the settlement agreement by attributing blame to the defendants, was soundly defeated by a 25-2 margin.

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PS Warren and ATLAS host the "Cliffs of Ireland" party at the Powerplant at 8:30. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. Tickets at the Plant or email psw@ualberta.ca. Don't miss out.

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NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Compiled by Jake Troughton

ANT-MUSLIM ATTACKS ROCK U OF T

TORONTO (CUP)—The conflict between Muslim and anti-Islamic factions at the University of Toronto escalated to physical violence last week, when what appeared to be a series of anti-Islamic attacks took place on campus, including the assault of a female Muslim student last Tuesday.

The student, who wished not to be named, was followed into a washroom by a female assailant who shoved a flyer into her chest, pushing her back, while saying, "You need this, you're a Muslim." The flyer advertised a rally supporting Denmark over last month's controversial Danish cartoon of Mohammed.

After the student threw the flyer away, the assailant asked her why she had discarded it, and began yelling at her and her friend to, "Go back to [their] fucking country and both of it."

"She just kept yelling, 'Fucking Muslim terrorists,'" said the student.

The attack was only the most serious in a recent string of incidents contributing to what U of T Students' Administrative Council VP (Equity) Shala Kibria calls the "volatile atmosphere on campus against Muslims." On Wednesday morning, a group of people threw eggs at Kibria and other Muslim women who were informing students on campus about last Tuesday's attack.

"When I heard what happened [to the student], it enraged me," said Kibria.

Sarah Barakat, the Varsity

TORONTO STUDENTS PROTEST
ONTARIO PLANTO LIFT TUITION FREEZE
TORONTO (CUP)—Rainy weather did

nothing to extinguish Toronto students' anger as they protested proposed tuition hikes last week.

Along with students from George Brown College and York University, Ryerson students picketed in response to the Ontario government's announcement to increase tuition fees.

About 20 Ryerson students met on campus before marching down Yonge Street holding signs, blowing whistles and chanting while making their way to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities offices.

The group arrived at the building, joining a crowd of protesters holding a sea of yellow signs as police looked on.

Ryerson Students' Union President Rebecca Rose spoke at the rally, struggling to be heard over the malfunctioning microphone as she denounced the fee increases.

Borrowing from the protesters' chants, Rose called the fee increase "shameful" and asked her fellow students to fight them "in solidarity."

RSU Vice-President (Education) Nora Loreto was also in attendance, sporting a t-shirt that read, "I sold my other shirt to fight for tuition."

Some of the Ryerson students who had attended the protest waved their signs on street corners on their way back to campus.

The event had been planned and advertised on campus since before the announcement; as the impending tuition increase had been expected for weeks.

Vicky Tam, the Eyeopener

MCGILL STUDENTS' SOCIETY ACCUSED OF OPPRESSING GORILLAS

MONTREAL (CUP)—A would-be presidential candidate for the Students' Society of McGill University is protesting a decision to exclude him from the election campaign, arguing that he faced discrimination against gorillas.

Ed Petrenko, who prefers to be called "Gorilla Q. Everyman," submitted his

nomination signatures last Wednesday while dressed in a gorilla suit. However, Elections Coordinator Usha Li explained that he was disqualified from actually running because he did not have enough signatures.

Rather than spending last week putting up posters and speaking to classes, Petrenko donned his gorilla suit to distribute handbills to students.

"Gorilla Q. Everyman, got bulldogged out of the election—don't let 'the man' perpetrate his or her Shamerician Shamocracy at McGill," the handbill read.

Everyman said that gorillas face a "tough scene" at McGill because they're discouraged from attending classes, and are given strange looks when walking around campus.

His campaign was to be based on political "flip-flopping" to accommodate a wide range of political views.

Everyman urged students not to vote for either of the two presidential candidates, Aaron Donny-Clark and Leon Mbwiba.

"I feel they're good people, but they're part of the hegemony that's oppressing the gorillas," he said, adding he hadn't met either candidate because he wasn't much of the type hiding in a nearby jungle.

Donny-Clark said that although Everyman would have attracted more student interest in the election, it would have compromised its seriousness. He added that Everyman was excluded because he violated elections rules, not because of discrimination.

"To the best of my knowledge, the Students' Society does not oppress gorillas," Donny-Clark said.

Everyman, who plans to run again next year, denied that he is running as a joke candidate.

"I don't really see what's so funny," he said. "I'm just a gorilla trying to run for president."

Erika Meere, CUP Québec Bureau
Chief

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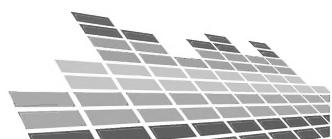
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OPINION

opinion@gateway.ulberta.ca • thursday, 16 march, 2006

Presumption of guilt has serious consequences

OUR SOCIETY LIKES TO PAY lip service to the idea of people accused of crimes being presumed innocent until proven guilty. But the truth, unfortunately, is that, in terms of perception, an accusation is often just as bad as a conviction.

That's why it's important for authorities to be damned sure they know what they're doing when they make accusations. A recent international child pornography investigation has become a tragic example of what can happen when they mess up.

The long-term investigation targeted thousands of people around the world, including over 2300 in Canada, who were accused of purchasing child pornography online through a Texas-based company that was raided and shut down in 1999. The problem: many of the people whose credit card information appeared in the company's database weren't involved at all, but rather were victims of identity theft.

Child pornography is pretty much the worst thing with which someone can be accused of involvement. The horrific nature of the crime sometimes leads people to presume guilt rather than innocence, but that's exactly the wrong reaction: it's important to be extremely mindful of the consequences of false accusations.

In this case, the consequences were severe. Nearly 40 people in Great Britain committed suicide in the aftermath of false accusation, along with six in Australia and at least one in Canada, according to a cbc.ca story. Homes were raided, marriages disintegrated and people lost their jobs, all because authorities were too quick to make an assumption based on a list of credit card numbers.

This is unacceptable. Police know the disruption they can cause by raiding a home—particularly in search of child pornography. So to carelessly cast a shadow on so many people is irresponsible and shameful, particularly given the rather obvious possibility, in this particular case, that the credit card numbers linked to the website by US authorities had been stolen.

The bigger problem, though, is that a simple accusation—or even just suspicion—can cause so much damage in the first place. It's a fundamental flaw of our society that the principle of presumed innocence is applied only in a legal context (if even then), and not taken to heart. It can be impossible for some people to recover from accusations of criminal conduct, particularly such horrifying crimes. Even after being cleared of charges, many people find they can't get back their lost jobs, friends, families and reputations.

Authorities should always be careful about the accusations they make, but the only effective long-term solution is for people to change the way they think. We've enshrined the presumption of innocence in law for very good reasons; if those reasons start to sink in with the general population, hopefully one day the falsely accused won't feel driven to end their own lives.

JAKE TROUGHTON
Senior News Editor

A modern day Nero

APPARENTLY GOLF IS A BIG DEAL in South Korea. Prime Minister Lee Hae-chan, who was found playing golf during a national railway strike, was forced to resign under sustained public pressure over his penchant for going to the links in times of national crisis.

Dubious as his actions may have been, it's a tad ironic that South Korea's PM stepped down over a game of golf, while his northern counterpart perpetrates horrific human-rights abuses as a matter of course.

Not to mention our situation a bit closer to home, where an SU President can miss numerous meetings and jeopardize a decade-long legal dispute, only to emerge from Council's censures completely unscathed.

MATT FREHNER
Photo Editor

LETTERS

Better ways to get clean air than banning smoking

I was a little surprised to hear that the majority of undergraduate students voted in favour of the smoking ban. I'm aware that smoking is bad for you, as well as the fact that continuous exposure to second-hand cigarette smoke can be harmful to non-smokers.

This is why I didn't complain when Edmonton took smoking out of bars. The idea of a campus-wide tobacco ban, however, is idealistic—banning smoking won't help people quit, and it definitely won't make the air on campus much cleaner.

If clean air is what these idealists want, why not go right to the source—let's ban all motor vehicles. I'm tired of walking past those stinky buses spewing their diesel in my face, and the Aramark vans that deliver food all over campus need to go too. Why can't they park off campus and walk their deliveries in? Not only would the air on campus be cleaner, but these delivery people would be in much better shape after a few months.

Also, I don't think there's any reason for the shuttle busses to be at the Faculty of St. Jean. Come on people, a little schedule planning and you'd have plenty of time to walk over there. It can't take more than 30 minutes.

If we're truly concerned about the health of our students and the quality of the air on campus, my suggestion would be much more effective in terms of achieving cleaner air. And with all the walking that will become necessary I'm sure that everyone on campus will be in much better shape. After all, we could all stand to improve our fitness.

SARAH HOLMGREN
Psychology III

Loss of smoking revenue not worth loss of life, Tobias

I am writing to respond to the comments of Mr Jason Tobias, SU VP Operations & Finance, raised in the article, "Smoking on campus under fire after vote" (14 March).

While I appreciate that there are

financial concerns with respect to

losing \$300,000 dollars in revenue or a

bit more if you take into account the

lost chocolate bar and slush

sales that you mentioned), you

haven't shared your thoughts on the

SU (SUBmart) being a conduit for

the tobacco industry. The products

produced by this industry kill

people. You sell these products. Are

those deaths worth \$300,000?

Is not selling tobacco in SUBmart

going to make people stop smoking?

No. Could it be considered

taking a stand, sending a message to

the University community—and

country as a whole, since this issue

is being widely reported on—that,

as an institution of higher learning,

we aren't going to fund programs

by selling products that, when used

exactly as intended, kill one out of

every two users? Yes. Why will the

SU not condone this latter course

of action?

When our University is training



doctors, pharmacists, nurses, dentists and dental hygienists—all of whom have to deal with the carnage left behind by the tobacco industry—why on earth should the Students' Union representing these budding professionals be participating in the sale of these products?

Finally, I was especially disheartened to read Mr Tobias' comment that he's "hesitant to see the value of the SU taking a stance on the subject without a buying-in from the University."

I understand the importance of massaging relationships and working together, but, as for having difficulty in the SU taking a stance on this subject on its own, why is that so shocking? A proposal? I do not understand why it would be regarded as irrelevant to the campaign as a first.

Third, she had an unused can of paint left over after the campaign. If I had known about this before the campaign, I would have personally purchased it from her for \$6.06. Problem solved. However, apparently nothing can be removed from the budget once it is on it, but the CRO can add things to the budget without any problems.

Fourth, the CRO has done a disservice to the democratic process on campus when eliminating a perfectly viable candidate from the election. Certainly there was some other way of censuring Ms Kelly than disqualifying her. Perhaps she could have been forced to pay \$6.06 to all of her opponents to restore the budget equality.

ANDREW MCCLOSKEY
Phys Ed & Rec alumnus

Michelle Kelly treated unfairly by the CRO

I'm writing this letter in regards to Michelle Kelly's disqualification from the election last week because her budget exceeded the amount allowed by \$6.06 after a \$10 fine was added. I don't know this girl or what she is like, but it angers me that she was treated unfairly.

First of all, can the CRO guarantee that no other candidate went over the \$500 allowed? Sure, the candidates submitted budget statements, but do they really know that they were accurate within a margin of error of \$6.06? Maybe one of them got a parking ticket while putting up posters, or purchased a book about running a campaign or bought pizza for their friends

that helped with the campaign and didn't report it.

Second, is a fine really a campaign expense anyway? It wasn't an expense for something that contributed to her campaign. Perhaps such things as food, water, utilities and tuition for the campaign period should be counted on candidate budgets as well. They are just as irrelevant to the campaign as a fine.

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JOEL CURRIE
Arts alumnus

Pink disqualification signs were an election embarrassment

Cheers to the Gateway news team for being so balanced on coverage of the latest SU elections news; the Gateway doesn't seem to take the FOX-style propaganda approach to journalism, and for that I commend them.

The article, "Kelly disqualified from race for President" (9 March) could have been something slanderous, but the Gateway took the high road and chose to purely inform readers and allow them to make

their own judgments.

Unfortunately, in regards to Kelly's disqualification, there was a group of people that chose to take the low road. As such, allow me to offer up a nomination for the Burlap Sack: whomever it was in the brilliant SU Election organizational staff who thought of posting hundreds of bright pink signs stating "Michelle Kelly Has Been Disqualified" on every single square inch of every single voting station on campus.

Rather than bolstering insensitivity at every turn and wasting goodness knows how much money on pink pieces of paper (bet your bottom dollar that paper cost more than \$600), perhaps the SU could have trained their ever-so-pleasant table-sitters to inform voters of Kelly's disqualification at the same time as they described in precise detail not only how to fill out one's ballot, but the obscure manner one should place one's ballot in the ballot box.

At this point in time, whether the disqualification was justified is moot, but whether the SU is as professional and serious as it desperately tries to claim? The results are in. Based on the SU's crass treatment of Kelly's situation—no!

ERIN VOAKLANDER
Arts IV

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or mailed to opinion@gateway.ulberta.ca

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.



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Guilt doesn't save souls, or sell cars

DERRICK
GRIEBENSKI



I am in the market for a fine automobile. As such, I've had recent cause to pay attention to the comings and goings of the automotive industry to aid in my choice. Not being made of money, I feel that it's wise to thoroughly research my purchase before plunking down a few thousand clams, and my recent sleuthing has made one thing perfectly clear; the only thing that could possibly sell American cars is guilt.

If you're into this stuff, it's no secret to you that the Big Three vehicle manufacturers, General Motors, Ford and Dodge, are all hemming-and-guming like some kind of crazy mayhem-hemorring machine. Why, in 2005 alone, GM lost \$8.6 billion, and threats of massive job losses across North America have become part of the daily routine.

Naturally, corporate representatives are thrilled to spread the blame around. Union problems, high corporate taxation, fickle consumers—they've tried it all. I can't afford a new car, but if I could, any of these three companies would happily offer me hilariously low interest rates on my lease or purchase. In addition to a wild cavalcade of cash incentives and discounts, and probably really sweet deals on some primo whores.

Have you got fifty bucks? If you do, you can drive away in pretty much any new domestic vehicle before lunch tomorrow. And yet, the financial losses mount. What in the sweet, blue hell is going on?

Here's a hint: they all three of them, make terrible, terrible vehicles in comparison to everything else. Even

"I had the occasion to visit the Edmonton International Auto Show a few weeks back, and shod my handsome buttocks into the seat of virtually every manufacturer involved, and here's my report: the glovebox door in a brand new Ford Fusion broke when I opened it."

the perennial laughingstock Hyundai is kicking the ass of American manufacturers in terms of build quality, and the gap is increasing with every passing year. I had the occasion to visit the Edmonton International Auto Show a few weeks back, and shod my handsome buttocks into the seat of virtually every manufacturer involved, and here's my report: the glovebox door in a brand new Ford Fusion broke when I opened it.

So, there's the guilt factor. If you're clever enough to have a shower without drowning, it's pretty clear to you that any domestic vehicle you may purchase will be of lower quality than its foreign counterparts. Even the domestic manufacturers appear to know it, because they're no strangers to applying the old guilt-trip angle in an attempt to have their tawdry wares.

How could you, a citizen of this continent, choose to buy a vehicle from Japan: a country that was a mortal enemy in World War II? That is only 50 years ago! Your grandpa fought in that very war and would spin like a lathe in the cold, cold ground if he knew what you were up to. For the love of God, keep the proceeds of your car purchase where they belong, right here in North America. As stupid as this kind of rationalization sounds—and it is—it happens all the time. I guess nobody has noticed that virtually every manufacturer buys at least some of its cars in North America these days.

OK, then, let's try this another way. Your father owned nothing but Dodges, and his father owned nothing but Dodges, so how can you live with

yourself if you don't keep up the tradition, jerk? Your grandpa would spin like a lathe in the cold, cold ground if he even imagined you glancing inside a Camry. Yeah, well, my grandpa also shit in a wooden sack outside his shanty farmhouse and drove 600 miles to fetch water three times a day, but I'm not about to do either one of those damned things, because progress has given me better options.

But hey, if there weren't gullible souls willing to dole solemnly along with triumphant images of the American flag waving behind some rickey domestic vehicle in a TV ad, then such ridiculous marketing techniques would probably descend into hell where they belong. The fact that I've actually heard this jingoistic baloney spouted by geographically unimformed Canadians just reinforces my image of who would buy a Chevy simply because it ain't Japanese.

In the real world, Toyotas, Hondas, Volvos and everything else that's designed by someone with a high-school diploma run forever and ever, while the domestic manufacturers try to figure out clever new ways of making you feel like a traitor for spending your money on decent merchandise.

Now, I'm no automotive financial consultant, but maybe if half of the yearly American flag budget of any domestic manufacturer was put toward, you know, building better cars, they wouldn't have to strap on the old knee pads to sell vehicles. Plus, it would prevent a whole bunch of unnecessary graveyard spinning, and that can only be good news.

Proposed smoking ban a serious gamble

ADAM
GAUMONT



By voting "yes" on the smoking ban, we undergraduates are taking a serious gamble. Instead of skipping over this plebiscite, we have instead decided to spread ahead and ban all smoking—even outdoors—effective this summer. Should Council choose to adopt this measure, then come July 1, 2006, all of the University's resident tobacco addicts will essentially become orphaned, as they won't even be able to buy cigarettes on campus, much less light them up.

The major players in this game have been the extremely vocal "Yes" faction in the one hand, and the not quite as vocal "No" faction in the other. The Yes side has accused the No side of blowing smoke in the face of the student populace, with "the facts" getting filtered through the big PR machine that No's deep pockets afford.

Yes faction has even gone as far as to accuse leather-lunged No proponents of fostering outright lies in an effort to snuff out opposing voices. In response, Yes supporters have attempted to chew out their rivals in the papers in order to hedge public opinion.

This is arguably the lighter of the two controversies stemming from the recent election, however. In case you missed it, in attempting to gain the SU's throne, Michelle Kelly inadvertently went over her budget, which resulted in her being disqualified.

This King-sized blunder came about as a result of her incurring a fine due to missing a meeting, a move which, in hindsight, was a real roll of the dice for Kelly. As a result, she was faced with a ruling from the DIB board, and her crappy fate was sealed.

Could it be that this chain of events is happening too suddenly, and will become more of a drag on those attempting to kick the habit, rather than an inspiration?

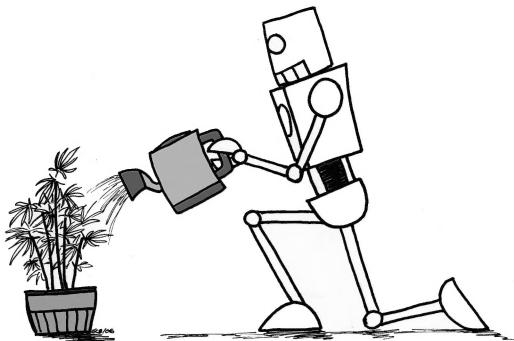
That said, I think we can all agree that nothing is riskier than smoking itself. A smoking ban promises to curb the potential health risks linked to this filthy habit; according to the Capital Health Group, which went smoke-free itself recently, the risk of smoking is not a minuscule one, based on the meridian-average of lower-

lespans cases. Specifically, there is a very real risk of cancer associated with smoking—but I'm getting off topic here.

So here are we to cope with such a drastic change being implemented so soon? Could it be that this chain of events is happening too suddenly, and will become more of a drag on those attempting to kick the habit, rather than an inspiration?

After all, the SU takes in approximately \$50 000 per year from the sales of cigarettes and cigars, the hub of their income, and this revenue would have to be found elsewhere in order to meet the income cap. However, it has been pointed out that they could continue to sell these products in HUB mall—but that's a different story altogether.

If the SU does, in fact, go through with the ban, it may prove to be a gamble worth taking. If the suits in the executive office do heed the call of us students, one can only hope that they play their cards right, and agree on a set of rules that suit the needs of smokers and non-smokers alike. For example, perhaps the proposal could be rolled out in such a way that students could still smoke indefinitely in clubs and near their cribs, thereby chipping away more gradually at the problem. For although council must have the heart to call a spade a spade, they must also be able to spot a diamond in the rough, and occasionally give those caught blowing smoke a break.



SCOTT C BOURGEOIS

Future of pharmacy: robots and herbs

ROB
FURSIEWICZ

Future University of Alberta Pharmacy graduates: no worries yet—your services likely won't be outsourced to India or Kyrgyzstan, at least for the time being. But your job might one day be taken by a robot.

A Connecticut hospital has recently spent over \$1 million on an automated drug-dispensing robot. It goes by the name, "Safely Administering Medication," or the less-geeky, SAM, for short—or the even geekier, "McKesson Robot RX," its technical name.

As the Associated Press reports, the robo-pharmacist "occupies most of a corner of a room in the pharmacy department [with] an agile, mechanical arm protruding from a pole in the center of an octagon [on which] are hundreds of individually wrapped pieces of medicine, hanging from metal pins." SAM takes orders from higher-ups, finds the drug and drops it into an envelope, which is then verified by a real, live pharmacist.

Blame it on the American health care system, where something called "profit" allows for the purchase of such an extravagant device. Three thousand such "medication-dispensing machines" are being used in the US. Of course, there's a benefit for pharmacists: more time spent with patients rather than the mundane, robotic tasks that could be done quicker by, well, robots.

But forget SAM for now. There's an even bigger evil, ready and willing to render irrelevant the drugs that you'll have spent four years learning about. No, it's not a pharmacy-sabotaging killer robot. It's alternative medicine—also known as "Complementary and Alternative Medicine," or CAM (erily and suspiciously similar to SAM)—and it's turning law-abiding pharmaceutical patients into pot-smoking aromatherapy addicts.

In fact, the problem (or solution, depending on your perspective) has gotten so big that the US's National

Institute of Health has been given its own department: the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine. If a "National Institute of Health" is a scientific endeavour, the NCCAM's own website might give you second thought: the section entitled, "Treating Type-2 Diabetes with Dietary Supplements," starts by warning of "limited scientific evidence on the effectiveness of dietary supplements... The evidence that is available is not sufficiently strong to prove that any of the six supplements discussed in this report have benefits for type-2 diabetes or its complications."

Perhaps we're entering a new age of "postmodern" health- and pharmacare, where rosiglitazone is replaced by reflexology and iridology takes the place of isotretinoin.

Who needs a doctor, pharmacist or drugs for type-2 diabetes when we have that kind of assurance? After reading such a warning, you'd have to ask: what's the point?

As the *National Post* reported this month, Health Canada is taking steps to remove a ban on "natural health remedies." The Centre for Science in the Public Interest calls this move "strikingly irresponsible." But one of Health Canada's conditions might pose a problem to alternative medicine marketers: proof of efficacy is required. Surely this will only slow these people down!

Alt-med have now snuck into higher education. The U of A's Faculty of Pharmacy offers a course called "Complementary/Alternative Medicinal Therapies," which considers "herbal preparations, nutritional supplements, and homeopathics." The course emphasizes the "role of the pharmacist to help clients make an informed choice and counsel them on the selection of useful and safe products." It appears to be taught from a patient's perspective, where the pharmacist is dealing with a patient's

God-given right to dabble in alt-meds, rather than the pharmacist learning about alt-meds for any inherent medicinal value.

Meanwhile, Athabasca University offers a Bachelor of (Human) Science degree, part of which may include an optional course titled, "Alternative Therapies." Its major topics are "mind-body interventions, chiropractic, massage therapy, reflexology, acupuncture, therapeutic touch, iridology, homeopathy, herbalism, diet therapy, naturopathy, cancer therapy, Native healing, aromatherapy, music therapy and chelation." Sounds like a jolly good time, but only tangentially related to humans and/or science.

At the very least, today's pharmacists have an obligation to become aware of drug-drug interactions between actual drugs and the ever-popular alternative therapies that might interfere with them (or vice versa). In the August 2005 issue of *Consumer Reports*, about half of respondents in a poll of 34 000 Americans reported using an alternative treatment in the past 12 years. A 2004 report from the *Medical Journal of Australia* suggests that the rise of alternative medicines is a result of general societal changes that include "the consumer and green movements, as well as postmodernism"—damn liberal pharmaceuticals—rather than a specific grievance with modern medicine.

Perhaps we're entering a new age of "postmodern" health- and pharmacare, where rosiglitazone is replaced by reflexology and iridology takes the place of isotretinoin.

In the future, while robots take care of the menial tasks (and start encroaching even further on human turf), perhaps pharmacists angered by the incessant clunking and buzzing of their electronically powered colleagues can hand their patients a copy of "How to Be Your Own Herbal Pharmacist" before taking a job at a traditional pharmaceutical-based pharmacy (now with 100 per cent human employees!). Don't fret, since such a scenario might be years away.

As that Australian report suggests, "CAM is here to stay and will continue to present challenges for conventional medicine on how to respond."

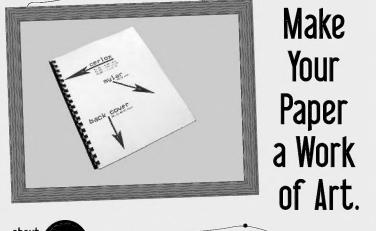
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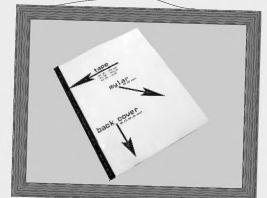
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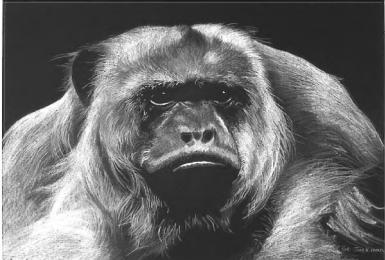
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Our safety rests on simpler razors



CONAL
PIERSE

each time I turn on my television (or, "moving-pictures box," as I call it) there's an ad for a brand new razor with an increased number of blades. Right now, the latest from Gillette is called the Fusion, which, in case you haven't seen the ads, has more razor blades than the audience at an And You'll Know Us By The Trail Of Dead show (whose name, by the way, is far too goddamn long).

Not only does it have several blades, these blades also oscillate in a way reminiscent of a combine harvester. If this current trend is allowed to continue, it won't be long before poor Timmy loses his arm in a shaving accident and I have to listen to various celebrities complain about victims of shaving accidents in between advertisements where a man shaves his face with a lawn mower. "The smell of cut grass—on your face!" I won't even mention how the peak oil crowd will respond to the fuel supply these futuristic razors will require.

Currently I use the "Mach 3," because the name reminds me of *Top Gun*, which in turn reminds me of the song "Danger Zone," and if you don't like "Danger Zone," you can get the hell out. As a result of my odd reasons for purchasing this product, I never really took into consideration what they were trying to sell me, or I would surely have picked a different razor.

This triplet of blades (or the three bladesketeers, if you like) is supposedly meant to give me a closer shave. However, I see things differently. Remember how when you first got a paper cut, it was one of the worst things you'd ever experienced, right up until the time an encyclopedia gave you three at once? That's my general attitude towards this razor.

You see, when I look at my razor, I don't see each blade representing a closer cut, but rather another chance at mangling my face, which is why the current trend in "shaving technology" is shocking to me. It seems that

it's too late. We are not lumberjacks sustained by a pancake diet with facial hair that rivals steel for strength! Our toilet paper is meant for cleanliness, not to staunch facial blood loss! Join me and together we can ride into the danger zone. The danger zone, my friends.

THE BURLAP SACK

Ah, elevators. So powerful, so fast, so sexy. And so not meant for riding up or down a single floor.

Don't get me wrong: I don't want to hike up to the 34th floor of an office skyscraper any more than you do, at least not if I don't want to be dripping with sweat and completely out of breath when I get to the top.

Admittedly, even three or four floors can produce this effect—but one? Give me a fucking break! There are people with wheelchairs, crutches and hyperactive thyroids who need to use it a lot more than you do.

To be fair, sometimes taking the stairs isn't an option, as with the curiously designed SUB elevators—but that's a Burlap Sack for another day.

This beating will likely result in a few broken bones, at which point your elevator use will be justified. But until then, take the stairs, jackass.

ADAM GAUMONT

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print.

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Hockey Bears far from hibernation during off-week



BIG TIME PLAY The Bears are gearing up to defend their national championship next weekend.

CHRIS O'LEARY
Sports Editor

With the Telus University Cup's final still over a week away, the Bears hockey team has been doing some positive thinking the last few days. Canada West Coach of the Year Eric Thurston ran practice on the ice at Rexall Place on Tuesday and Wednesday in anticipation of taking to the same ice surface that the Bears were able to capture the national championship a year ago, when he was an assistant under Rob Daum.

"[It's] about familiarity of the rink," Thurston explained, saying that Rexall will present some factors the Bears aren't used to. "The corners there are very different; it's a very hot rink. You pack 10 000-plus people in and plus, you're emotional. If you have a little bit of an understanding and [familiarity] to it, you hope it serves you well. But you get into a one-game shot like that and anything can happen."

Thurston and the Bears will have what must seem like an eternity to consider what could happen, as they're theoretically on ice for the next week. After knocking off Calgary and Saskatchewan in consecutive weeks, Thurston said that he isn't worried about the team losing any of their momentum as they sit idle through this weekend.

"It helps if you hold yourself back. You've got to keep your enthusiasm; you don't want to burn yourself out. So we practiced [Tuesday] and we made sure we were relaxed and just tried to have fun," he said. "You may not want one, but a break is good just to take care of the nicks and bruises, and to get everyone back and refocused. We're able to understand it so we're able to deal with it."

While the Bears are sitting idle this weekend, so too are their competitors. McGill, Acadia,

Wilfrid Laurier, Saskatchewan and Lakehead have all wrapped up their respective conference championships, which will leave each team in the same boat in terms of their preparedness for trying to win a national title.

"Two weeks [without playing] is a little long, but that's unfortunately the makeup of the tournament and you have to adjust to that," Thurston said, noting that every player in the tournament should be ready to go when they take the ice. "It's that time of year that you're not worried about guys being plugged in, because if they can't get up for this, then you're in big trouble."

As the top-seeded team in the tournament, the Bears won't see any action until Friday, when they'll face the loser of Thursday's McGill-Wilfrid Laurier game. Thurston said that due to the round robin nature of the tournament, the Bears are focusing more on what they as a team will do, more than their opponents.

"Whoever we're playing, you have to cover all of your bases. All of your forechecking systems, all of your neutral systems, all your breakouts, so when you do come in you can go with A, B and C, and you have to work on these things to be successful."

Thurston said he's looking forward to the round robin and its all-or-nothing feel.

"The way this tournament is set up, it's Russian Roulette. You lose one game and you're in trouble—you're basically done. There are six teams coming in and [any one of those] six teams could win it," he said. "You run into a hot goalie, you get a bad call, guys don't have their best game and you run into some very good teams. In a best of seven or five, you can get that one bad game under your belt, but not in this tournament. That makes it exciting, and it's the same for everyone."

Pandas hockey team make Gateway sports writer eat crow



JAKE
TROUGHTON
*Sports
Commentary*

There comes a time in every man's life when he has to swallow his pride, stand up, and admit that the Pandas hockey team made him look like a giant fucking idiot.

Or maybe that's only me. Either way, though, the time has come: the Pandas hockey team made me look like a giant fucking idiot.

Last week, you may recall, I wrote in these pages that the Pandas were justifiably underdogs heading into the national championship over the weekend in Antigonish, NS. I said they lacked the offensive firepower and killer instinct that had carried them to four championships in six years, and in particular I questioned the ability of starting goaltender Holly Tadleton to help lead the team to victory against better offensive teams than the Pandas generally faced during the Canada West season.

Ops.

Maybe I owe Holly a beer, or a free punch to the gut or something, but really, I like to think that the humiliation of being proven so utterly, ridiculously wrong is punishment enough. I put myself on the line with a bold prediction last week, and I'm pretty sure I'll never be doing that again.

I said the Pandas would struggle to create offence against teams from a tougher Ontario conference; they opened the tournament with a 5-0 win over Ontario's number-two team, the Toronto Varsity Blues. I said they'd likely give up more goals against stronger offensive teams; they allowed three in their games.

Most egregiously, I said Tadleton wouldn't give the Pandas the goaltending they needed—and not only did she shut the door throughout the



REVERSE PSYCHOLOGY The Pandas hockey team was more than happy to prove Gateway sports writer Jake Troughton wrong by winning nationals.

tournament, but she won the second game in a freakin' shootout, figuratively kicking me repeatedly in the face in the process. It's almost as if the tournament were meticulously planned to make me look as stupid as possible.

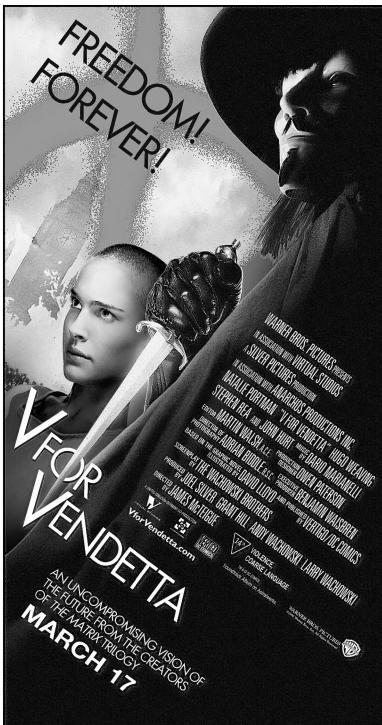
I was right about one thing, though: the Pandas were indeed unhappy about what I wrote (even though I, like, gave them the motivation they needed to go over the top, or something). Hey, you can't argue with results. You're welcome,

Pandas).

That's okay. I don't mind ruffling a few feathers, and it's not my job to cheerlead, although it may seem otherwise after three seasons of never having them give me a single negative thing to say about them. And at any rate, they've got a shiny new CIS championship banner to rub in my face—which they more or less literally did on Tuesday, as the picture accompanying this article will attest. Since the Gateway doesn't give

banners to its best writers, I can't really speak to how winning a national championship feels, but I imagine it'd help ease a lot of stings.

So this isn't an apology, but it is a *mea culpa*. I've been wrong before—far more often than otherwise, I think—but this time, I was really, really wrong, and man, do I ever feel stupid. The next time I decide to write about the Pandas losing, I think I'll wait for them to actually lose. Seriously: what the hell was I thinking?



Canada short one icon as Power goes out



TREVOR
PHILLIPS

ping between that and Brooke Burke giving away secrets of how to obtain the perfect mid-section, you might have caught something about Powers being the greatest North American squash player of all-time, or having the quickest wrist from the north. This might have motivated you to learn more about the game that you have ignorantly "dominated" so ferociously. If, in fact, you have thought this way, you're just one of at least a few thousand Canadians that have been influenced by Canada's only two squash heroes...

If you're into playing high-speed sports in confined spaces, then you might on occasion partake in a little squash action down at the old YMCA. Among the sounds of rubber hitting concrete, plastic hitting concrete and the occasional curse word, if you pick a weak enough opponent, you can freely show off your apparent "skills" and feel like a big man for an hour or so.

Inside the isolation of the cube, you're able to release some tension and maybe even envision yourself as a squash champion. Your assumptions, though naïve, are usually practical, as squash results or standings very rarely gain airtime on our sports networks. Therefore, you progress, occasionally beating your buddies, ascending the local pyramid, calling yourself the "King of the Cube," and maybe even staying up until 2 AM waiting for Vic Rauter to cover a little pro squash action.

Perhaps one night while watching some late-night squash, you happened to hear about a man named Jonathon Power, the world's long-time number-one ranked squash player, who's also a Canadian. You might have seen him locked in an epic duel for Canadian squash supremacy with long-time number-two, Graham Ryding, or rolling to convincing wins with other international challengers for his crown. While flip-

ing between that and Brooke Burke giving away secrets of how to obtain the perfect mid-section, you might have caught something about Power being the greatest North American squash player of all-time, or having

The quickest wrist from the north. This might have motivated you to learn more about the game that you've ignorantly "dominated" so ferociously. If, in fact, you have thought this way, you're just one of at least a few thousand Canadians that have been influenced by Canada's only two squash ambassadors.

ments with officials. Power's demeanor was also famous in the squash circuit, as he embodied the fun-loving and hard-working attitude that so many other Canadian athletes have, often joking with his opponents or holding dialogues with the audience during his matches.

The native of Comox, British Columbia spent 16 years on the tour and represented Canada well. Power leaves the game with 32 professional squash titles to his credit and a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games in 2002. He's a prime Commonwealth Games candidate to be elected into the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame. Until his election day comes, Power has chosen to stay involved in the business of squash, where he can give back to the sport. In the same way that you can still pick up a pair of Air Jordans at the mall, Power has his own sporting company that sells squash accessories, from balls and headbands to an instructional video that he produces.

Jonathan Power was more than just some guy walling away at an unusually tiny ball inside a concrete room—he was a pioneer, an ambassador and a superior athletic talent. Power should be held in the same high regard for his contributions to squash that other Canadian greats in their respective sports are. Power is to squash as Larry Walker is to baseball, Brian Orser is to figure skating, and Silken Laumann is to rowing.

So for those of you that have, like me, selfishly neglected to acknowledge the great career of this squash legend, the next time you pick up your racket take a minute to join me in saluting the only true "King of the Cube," the "Tamer of the 'T-line," Mr Jonathan Power.

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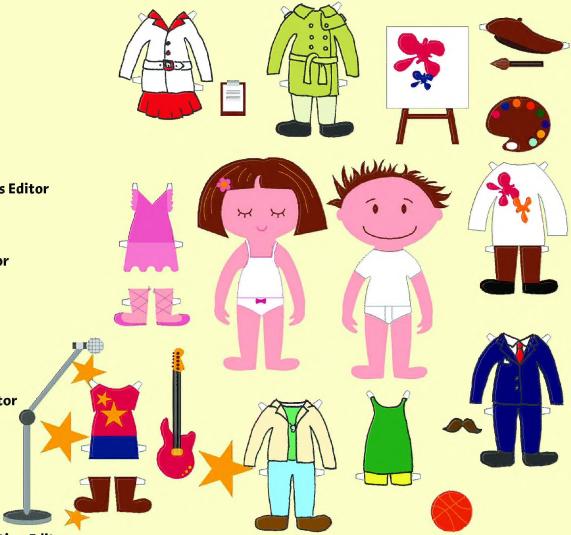
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Can you match your new editors to their new outfits?

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PAUL OWEN
CHRIS O'LEARY
*Sports
Commentary*

In case you weren't aware, CSI and Survivor won't be on this Thursday night. Instead, the greatest weekend of the sports year will kick off with the first 16 games of March Madness.

For basketball fans, the third weekend in March is a time to shove aside all responsibilities and glue themselves to the TV for what has been termed a four-by-four: a quadruple-header featuring four separate games during each time slot. With CBS and Sportsnet generally covering different games, and the fact that the games in each time slot have their starting times staggered so that no game ends as the next enters the first five minutes, the first round—which is completed on Thursday and Friday—becomes a sportstravaganza of epic proportions. Of course, as basketball-bonercific as the first weekend of the tourney can be, even more important are the implications that the first round can have on a pick-'em bracket. NCAA tournament bracket pools are the most common form of sports gambling in North America. From office pools, to groups of friends, to the University of Washington pool that got former football head coach Rick Neuheisel fired, everyone wants to be the first to predict a 16 seed upsetting a number one. Some will fill their brackets out based on seeding, some based on intense scrutiny of the teams and styles involved, and some based on what Clark Kellogg, Seth Davis and whichever of the Gumbels it is that works for CBS right now tells them to. Others will pick the mascots, team colours or where they want to go on vacation. While all of these can win your office pool, if you're really serious about winning, here are some hard and fast rules to consider when filling out your bracket.

Up for debate: Gonzaga

Paul Owen: One of the toughest teams to predict in the tournament in recent memory has been the Gonzaga Bulldogs. Gonzaga rose to prominence in 1999 when they made it to the Elite Eight as a seven-seed and lost to eventual champion Connecticut. They followed that up with back-to-back Sweet 16 appearances, and before they knew it, they were considered serious players.

Of course, Gonzaga has entered the tournament with impressive pedigrees for the past four seasons and failed every time. The Bulldogs have had a top-three seed for the past two years, only to squander them in second-round upsets at the hands of Nevada and Texas Tech, respectively.

Why will this year be different?

Because instead of being led by shoot-happy point guards who choke under pressure, this year's squad is led by the top scorer in the nation, Adam Morrison. The same Adam Morrison who has sprung for 40 points or more five times this season; the same Adam Morrison who banked in a game-winning three over two defenders against Oklahoma State and hit game-winning free throws against Michigan State; the same Morrison who will be a top pick in the coming NBA draft. That's something that Xavier, San Diego State and Indiana just can't handle, and that's why the Bulldogs will make it to at least the Sweet 16, if not further.

Chris O'Leary: While our Spokane-

based channels have been inundating us with Gonzaga props/propaganda since Adam Morrison's moustache was just a bad idea, the Bulldogs never fare well when they're a highly ranked team. For every instance that the Bulldogs have been the underdog in the tourney, they've fallen victim to an underdog when they're labelled as a team to beat. Sure, the 'Zags never had an Adam Morrison-type player before, but some things in this tournament are predestined: Dick Vitale is going to shill his ass off for the NCAA every time he opens his mouth, Billy Packer will let a racist/exist blurb slip out in prime-time, and Gonzaga will choke early in the tournament when the games are still being played in the middle of nowhere. My guess is that it'll be against Indiana in the second round.

Don't go upset crazy

Although everyone has hopes of being able to say that they were watching when Southwestern Alaska Tech knocked off Duke, you need to face reality: here it's just not going to happen. Upsets come from good teams that have experience. There's a reason that Oral Roberts and Monmouth are 16-seeds, and it's not because the selection committee likes their upset potential. If you're looking for teams to upset in the early rounds of the tourney, look at UAB, Seton Hall and Wisconsin-Milwaukee. If you want to look like a fool in front of your friends, pick a four-way 16-seed Final Four.

Five will lose to twelve

If you want your guaranteed upset, this is it. Every single year, at least one twelve-seed takes out a five-seed. Why? No one knows. Maybe it's a psychological thing; maybe the selection committee loads up the twelve-seed every year and makes money on it through betting illegally. Pick at least one twelve to knock off a five, though.

Know your teams

Florida plays in the SEC conference, where, for the last five years, the team that's won the conference championship has proceeded to go home earlier than a Seventh-day Adventist on a Friday night. It's happened to Florida (2005, second round), Arkansas (2000, first round), Mississippi State (2002, second round), and Kentucky has gotten away with it, having it happen to them three times (2001, third round; 2003, fourth round; 2004, second round).

In the same way that the SEC's champion goes out early every year, the college hoop gods have decided that come March, Michigan State University will click and make a lengthy playoff run. The Spartans have gone to the Final Four in four of the last eight years, including last year as a five and '03 as a seven. Don't forget that they won it all in 2000.

Sentimental picks

CO: When it comes down to it, we've all got our biases. Don't feel bad for going with Bucknell because you only hear their name at this time of the year. If you played against Mississauga's Ryan Wright in high school, by all means, pick UCLA to have a long run in the tourney. There's a reason that I pick Southern Illinois to make a run every year (purely for the reason that I think it's cool/hilarious to see "So Ill" make it way across CBS' and Sportsnet's ticker every year for as long as possibly can). I do this, however, knowing

that So Ill won't beat Texas.

PO: Unlike Chris, my heart lies with every small school team filled with unknowns. They generally have green or yellow jerseys, the colour of which is indicated in their team name (the Kent State Golden Flashes, for example). They also inevitably lose, but the great thing is that there's always another doomed bandwagon to jump on.

Picking out of tradition

CO: The North Carolina State Wolfpack gets at least one win in my bracket every year in light of their legendary finish in the 1983 championship game, where Lorenzo Charles dunked a shot that fell short of the hoop to beat the buzzer against a loaded Houston team that boasted future NBA legends Akeem Olajuwon and Clyde Drexler. And let's face it, if it weren't for buzzer-beating dunks off of airballs, I wouldn't even wake up this morning.

PO: My tradition pick goes to the team from the previous year who made the deepest Cinderella run. This year's squad: Kevin Pittsnoggle and his West Virginia teammates.

Hot players at the right time

Last year a less-talented Arizona team rode the white-hot shooting of Salim Stoudamire to an Elite Eight appearance. Every year one team rides their star to success in the tourney. If you want a one-player team to pick this year, look no further than Syracuse and guard Gerry McNamara. McNamara is lights-out from the free-throw line and led Syracuse to the Big East Tournament title with a plethora of buzzer-beating three pointers.

Cinderella's done at the sweet 16

It's great when Northwest Central State University makes a run, but the fun and games are over once you hit the Sweet 16. From here on, the truly great teams take over and show why they are going to be champions. Those distinguishing factors come in the form of quality coaching and players who are high lottery picks for this June's NBA draft.

MOPs who disappear

A quick look through the list of winners of the tournament's Most Outstanding Player can read like a who's who of basketball icons: Bill Russell, Lew Alcindor/Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Earvin "Magic" Johnson and, more recently, Carmelo Anthony, have all led their teams to infinity in March Madness. However, just because you were a man among boys for the month of March one year, it doesn't mean that your ticket to the L is punched when the championship game's buzzer sounds. Ever heard of Darrell Griffith? What about Anderson Hunt? How about Donald Williams, Ed O'Bannon, Miles Simon, Jeff Shepard or Richard Simmons? What? Richard Simmons? Yeah, he doesn't play ball, but if you picked out his name above the others, you know the situation is a bad one.

Paul's FinalFour

Duke, Gonzaga, Connecticut and Villanova. Villanova over Gonzaga to win it all.

Chris' FinalFour

Duke, Memphis, Connecticut and Georgetown, with Connecticut over Duke in the final.

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LE MIROIR

Volume I numéro 7 • le journal étudiant francophone officiel de la university of alberta • le jeudi 16 mars 2006

Mot de la Rédactrice en chef - *Le Miroir change de peau ce printemps*

OMAYRA A. ISSA

Rédactrice en chef

Chers lecteurs et chères lectrices du Miroir,

J'aimerais vous remercier de votre fidélité au Miroir et par la même occasion vous informer que ceci est sa dernière parution au sein du Gateway. Notre bimensuel amorce désormais une nouvelle phase de maturation et se présentera à

partir du 3 avril 2006 sous forme d'un journal étudiant entièrement bilingue que l'on reconnaîtra facilement sur le campus de l'Université d'Alberta comme *Le Miroir/The Mirror*. La raison de ce changement repose dans notre foi en une publication sérieuse qui comprendrait non seulement des informations qu'elles soient locales, nationales ou internationales, mais aussi qui se chargerait de reporter des événements culturels et artistiques digne d'intérêt sur et hors du

campus.

Le Miroir initialement vu le jour afin d'assurer une visibilité du français dans notre université. Ce fait n'est guère remis en cause par l'expansion du Miroir mais au contraire favorisé par la plus grande taille du prochain journal, *Le Miroir/The Mirror*. J'espère et j'ose compter sur votre fidélité au Miroir car il n'a de raison d'être que pour vous servir. Ceci est aussi l'occasion pour moi de remercier l'équipe du Gateway pour nous avoir

offert une place avec enthousiasme. Il est certain que sans leur appui continué, nous n'aurions pu vous proposer *Le Miroir*. Finalement, j'aurais voulu informer les uns et les autres de notre disponibilité quant à la publication de vos articles. Nous sommes toujours à la recherche de nouveaux journalistes, alors n'hésitez pas à nous faire parvenir vos contributions.

Omaya A. Issa, Rédactrice en chef



Tommy Lee Jones et Mike Norton dans *The three burials of Melquiades Estrada*

The three burials of Melquiades Estrada ou les liaisons dangereuses de Tommy Lee Jones

ROMAIN CHAREYRON
Arts & Spectacles

Van Horn, Texas. Ville fantôme peuplée d'êtres sans vie, engloués dans un quotidien sordide. Un homme, Melquiades Estrada (Julio César Cedillo), meurt dans un tragique concours de circonstances, victime malheureuse de la faiblesse humaine. C'est ce mort qui, de manière paradoxale, va faire battre le cœur du film. Pete (Tommy Lee Jones), ami fidèle de Melquiades, va tout faire pour que (sa) justice soit faite en retrouvant le meurtrier et, une fois ce dernier démasqué, en l'entraînant avec lui dans un voyage à travers le désert du Mexique afin de tenir sa promesse faite à Melquiades de l'enterrer dans son village natal.

Dans son premier film en tant que réalisateur, l'acteur Tommy Lee Jones se livre à une observation sans concession des rapports humains et privilégié pour celle une chose que l'on a trop souvent tendance à gommer de nos jours au profit d'un certain manichéisme : l'ambiguïté. Le meilleur exemple en est la relation bourreau-esclave qui lie Pete à Mike et qui s'avère des plus complexes et des plus perverses. Si Pete, dans la pure tradition vengeresse du western, expose Mike aux situations les plus extrêmes, faisant parfois preuve d'un sadisme non dissimulé, le dénouement nous fait envisager leur « union » sous un jour nouveau et, par là même, donne au voyage effectué par les deux protagonistes de forts accents de quête initiatique.

De quête, mais également d'expiation et de rédemption, il est d'ailleurs fortement question dans ce film où, dans la veine naturaliste, les

paysages du désert viennent à symboliser la psyché trouble des personnages qui les traversent ainsi que leur évolution intérieure. Comme il nous est permis de le constater dès les premières images, le désert constitue un personnage à part entière au sein du film. Paysage minéral, aride et sauvage dont l'ouverture sur l'infini est contrebalancée ici par une mise en scène privilégiant l'idée d'enfermement (voire la très belle séquence où Mike tente d'échapper à Pete), le désert apparaît à la fois comme passage nécessaire vers la transformation (le mort peut reposer en paix et l'assassin commencer son repenti) mais aussi comme élément puissant catalyseur des tensions et des dysfonctionnements de la société contemporaine. En effet, cette situation son action dans la ville frontalière avec le Mexique, le réalisateur en profite pour se livrer à une critique acerbe de la politique d'immigration des Etats-Unis.

Tout au long du récit, le réalisateur nous amène à nous questionner sur le concept de justice en nous présentant ce dernier comme étant guidé plus par des motivations personnelles que par un souci altruiste d'égalité.

Là ne réside cependant pas tout le caractère du film, puisque, tout au long du récit, le réalisateur nous amène à nous questionner sur le

concept de justice en nous présentant ce dernier comme étant guidé plus par des motivations personnelles que par un souci altruiste d'égalité.

Mais si le film nous dresse un tableau assez pessimiste de l'humanité, il sait également jouer sur d'autres registres et se faire plus tendre lorsque, par exemple, il nous dresse sous forme de flash-backs, l'amitié qui liait Pete à Melquiades à travers une série de saynètes aussi simples que mémorétaires lorsqu'il expose les liens qui unissent les personnes de cette petite ville du Texas où tout transpire l'ennui et où tout est prétexte à l'évasion, à l'oubli, à l'adulterie comme dans les sopas télévisés.

Présent des deux côtés de la caméra, Tommy Lee Jones, en accordant le rôle principal, sauventre en terrain connu... ou bien serait-il en terre inconnue ? Si le personnage de Mike lui permet d'endosser à nouveau les habits de justicier en marge de la société, son caractère impassible et sa présence monolithique servent id à faire passer des émotions plus subtiles. Ces passages où, dans le sens ou le sens du bord des larmes laissent percevoir une sensibilité à laquelle il ne semblerait pas être coutumier.

La qualité et l'intérêt du film ne résident bien entendu pas sur sa seule prestation, et il a su s'entourer d'acteurs qui savent parfaitement donner corps et âme à ces personnalités à la dérive qui, de prime abord, ne présentent pas forcément de grands élans de sympathie.

En conclusion, on peut dire qu'à l'image de son personnage principal, le film sait quand se taire et laisser les images parler pour lui ce qui, au cinéma, constitue plus une qualité qu'un défaut.

Le monde en bref

ÉRIC VAILLANT
Actualités

Fen Slobodan Milošević

L'ancien président de la Serbie et de la Yougoslavie, Slobodan Milošević, s'est éteint le 11 mars dans sa cellule où il était détenu pour crime de guerre et crime contre l'humanité. Impliqué notamment dans la guerre en Croatie (1991-1995), en Bosnie (1992-1995) et au Kosovo (1998-1999), il espérait une fois pour toutes son procès à La Haye.

Le décès de Slobodan

Milošević serait suspect selon l'aviso des conseils juridiques qui ont demandé une autopsie.

Il s'agit ainsi d'un revers pour le Tribunal pénal international pour l'ex-Yougoslavie (TPIY) qui pour la première fois faisait comparître un ancien chef d'Etat. Or, ni condamnation, ni sentence pour l'accusé confronté à 60 chefs d'accusation. Tout comme Milošević, Franco Tuđman et Alija Izetbegović, les autres artisans de la guerre des Balkans, sont morts avant d'avoir été trouvés coupables des crimes qui pesaient sur eux. Le décès de Slobodan Milošević serait suspect selon l'aviso des conseils juridiques qui ont demandé une autopsie. Le temps aura eu raison de la justice et de Milošević.

La musique africaine endeuillée

Le célèbre pianiste malien Ali Farka Touré n'est plus. Né à Kani au 1939, il s'intéressait à la musique dès son plus jeune âge. Fortement influencé par John Lee Hooker dont la musique s'apparente, selon lui, à celle des Tamashék (peuple du nord du Mali), Touré développe un style teinté de blues. Sa carrière musicale se marqua notamment par deux prestigieux Grammy Awards dont, pour son album Talking Timbuktu enregistré avec le guitariste Ry Cooder. On a dit de Touré que sa musique était d'influence afro-américaine. Conscient de l'ambiguité de la question, il rappela que la musique afro-américaine vient bel et bien d'Afrique et que si les blues est « né » en Amérique, ses racines, elles, sont en terre africaine.

Grippe aviaire : Cameroun

Après le Nigeria, le Niger et le Niger, le Cameroun est lui aussi touché par le virus H5N1. Comme les frontières du Tchad sont proches du foyer d'infection camerounais, il n'est pas inconcevable que l'épidémie émerge vers les Tchadiens. L'Europe regarde de près le développement du H5N1 en Afrique puisque c'est de là que des millions d'oiseaux migrateurs prennent leur envol avant de survoler la Sagra Familia, la Tour Eiffel et le Big Ben.

LE MIROIR

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Quand l'État trafique ses citoyennes

MAYA PHARÈS
Le Défilé

MONTRÉAL — Si la femme travailleuse voit souvent ses droits bafoués, il s'avère parfois que ce soit l'État qui, direct ou indirectement, favorise ces pratiques. L'exemple le plus criant est celui des Philippines. Marilou Carillo, membre du Centre des femmes philippines de Vancouver explique que «pour les femmes Philippines, rien n'a changé depuis l'ère coloniale. Nous vivons encore dans des conditions féodales parce que notre pouvoir économique en tant qu'nation n'a mallement changé».

Mme Carillo rappelle que la prostitution fut un départ lié au militarisme ayant pris son essor pendant la guerre du Vietnam, au moment où les soldats américains établirent des bases aux Philippines. «L'industrie du sexe s'est développée pour servir les troupes américaines. Le militarisme est la racine de la propagation de de

l'exportation de cette industrie».

Aujourd'hui, l'État philippin dispose d'une politique des travailleurs migrants qui favorise le départ de 3000 travailleurs par jour. Dix p. cent des Philippins sont à l'étranger. Parmi eux, soixante-dix p. cent sont des femmes, qui souvent se voient trafiquées dans le commerce sexuel. «Le gouvernement a intérêt à exporter les femmes parce qu'elles doivent dépendre des fortunes avant de pouvoir quitter le territoire, et une fois à l'étranger, elles retournent au pays des milliers de dollars américains pour la survie de leurs familles».

En Canada, ces femmes se trouvent reléguées à l'exécution de travaux domestiques. Mme Carillo explique que les études effectuées à ce jour démontrent un lien entre la prostitution et le Programme des aides familiaux résidents (programme national permettant aux particuliers d'employer un aide familial étranger, souvent un b. int. des travail-

leuses inscrites à ces programmes sont philippines. Cela permet (mais ne garantit pas) un accès plus rapide à la résidence permanente que les voies traditionnelles. Selon Louise Dionne, du Comité d'action contre le trafic humain interne et international, le fait est que «même en situation légale, les femmes se retrouvent dans des réseaux criminels».

Une des pires situations de vulnérabilité, soulignée par Mme Dionne, est celle des femmes qui entrent avec un visa touristique et finissent clandestines à l'exploitation. «Les employeurs savent cela et en profitent», note-t-elle. Elle invoque le manque de conventions internationales et la réticence du Canada à signer certains accords. Les pistes d'actions envisagées visent à sensibiliser les gens à la réalité du trafic et à contrearrêter le discours ambigu qui banalise la prostitution. L'organisation de comités de lobby est perçue comme une nécessité, afin d'avoir un accès direct aux députés.

De quoi se tenir occuper en français à Edmonton

RACHEL BARTHÉLEMY
Journaliste

L'Association Canadienne Francophone de l'Alberta est un organisme indépendant qui couvre ses portes et organise des activités tant pour les francophones que pour les francophones. L'ACFA a un horaire bien établi et charge pour ses programmes. Le Ciné Club, par exemple, est un programme présenté tous les premiers lundi du mois au Campus Saint-Jean lors duquel un film réalisé en français est visualisé. La P'tite

Scène, présentée tous les vendredis à la Cité Francophone, est un genre de 5 à 7 permettant la découverte d'artistes et de nouveaux talents. Et la liste de programmes ne s'arrête pas là : il y a également le Coup de cœur francophone, le Rendez-vous de la francophonie, le Comité des femmes, etc... Parmi les prochaines activités organisées par l'ACFA, on peut mentionner le festival « Edmonton chante », qui aura lieu les 23, 24 et 25 juin 2006. Le festival a pour but de promouvoir la langue française et permettra de

découvrir des artistes francophones venant de partout du Canada. Cet événement aura lieu sur le campus de l'école Maurice-Lavallé. De plus, différents types de spectacles et de programmes auront lieu au cours de l'année, tels que Le Rire, une revue humoristique de l'année, ainsi que le marché de Noël et la fête de Noël des enfants, organisés à la Cité francophone.

Pour plus d'informations au sujet de l'ACFA et de ses activités, écrivez à acfa.edm@acfaedmonton.ca



Même les cellulaires ont besoin d'un moment de silence

L'enfer des cellulaires

CHRISTINA MOLZAN
Commentaire

BRING - BRING . . . BRING - BRING - et immédiatement on veut l'arrêter et la gêne surgit lorsque le professeur et les étudiants s'arrêtent pour mieux entendre sa petite chanson. C'est le téléphone cellulaire qui sonne en classe! Il est fort probable que cette situation a pris place dans presque toutes les classes ou peut-être connaît-on quelqu'un qui a vécu cette situation forte évitable? Dans ce monde « technologique », beaucoup

de gens ont des téléphones cellulaires, des ordinateurs portables, des palm pilots à leur constante disposition.

Cependant, il faut bien avouer que dans nos cours où les distractions des téléphones cellulaires ne cessent pas de sonner, c'est déplaisant! Il y a un minimum de politesse à garantir pour les professeurs et les étudiants en prenant une petite pause des restrictions que nous imposse la technologie. On peut bien «oublier» ces objets de distraction là à la maison de temps en temps. Et personne n'en souffrira!

Angela Davis

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SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

La Bohème

Written by Giacomo Puccini
Dates and times vary
Winspear Centre
18–23 March

Operas aren't always linguistically understandable, but when you have a transcendental love story at the heart of a production like *La Bohème*, there's no need to bring along your Italian-English dictionary in order to comprehend.

Claimed to be the original Moulin Rouge and Rent, Giacomo Puccini's *La Bohème* is a captivating love story centering upon the life of a young poet named Rodolfo. Rodolfo falls in love with the gorgeous, yet delicate, seamstress Mimì, and together they face many trials and tribulations of being young lovers during 19th-century Paris.

While *La Bohème* is said to be an "immortal classic" that has "worked its way into the hearts and minds of millions throughout the world," there will still be English supertitles available, so don't worry about missing out on any aspect of the production.



DOA

with The Homewreckers and ASS
Friday, 17 March at 8pm
Victory Lounge

There's something to be said about a group that's been around since 1978—and it's not their fetish for orange-tinted aviators or bell-bottomed pants.

DOA, a renowned Vancouver band who lay claim to having "spreadheaded the punk rock counterculture around the world," will be playing probably for their millionth time come this Friday. Ever since their formation in '78, the group has traversed the world continuing with their snarling lyrics and sharp punk sound. And while some political or philosophical protest isn't guaranteed, absurdity is definitely on the table.

The Marble Index

with The Miniatures and The Fat Dave Crime Wave
Saturday, 18 March at 8pm
The PowerPlant

Taking after bands such as The Smiths, Big Star and The Clash, The Marble Index is the next wave of new-wave punk bands, and they want to share their unorthodox musical values with you come this Saturday at the PowerPlant.

The Hamilton, Ontario trio came together in 2001 after growing dissatisfied with their own individual musical outfits. They all yearned for something bigger, and after the group formed, it didn't stop them from mixing things up a tiny bit more. Each of the guys gave up their musical instruments of choice and picked up a new one, and then they proceeded to record an album.

The Marble Index seems like a fly-by-night bunch of musicians, so if you're interested to see what other last-minute shenanigans they're capable of, make sure to stop by the Plant this weekend and catch them live.

AMANDA ASH
The Apprentice

Helping women, one chord at a time

Women's Law Forum Benefit Concert

with The Last Deal, The Frosted Tipz, No Hands, Fractal Pattern, Working Tide and The Winks
Saturday, 18 March at 6pm
Red Strap Market

BEN CARTER
Arts & Entertainment Writer

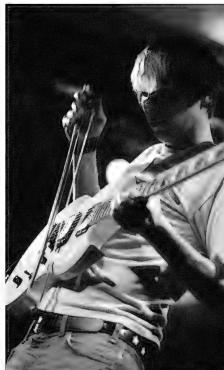
If you're looking to raise some money for a good cause, you can usually go two ways. The safe route, a silent auction, dinner mixer, what-have-you, may attract a friendly crowd and raise a few bucks. The alternate route, however, is to phone up a few friends, find a venue, and put on a rock show. That's the route organizers of this Friday's Women's Law Forum benefit show at the Red Strap Market have taken, with local bands and groups from elsewhere joining in to raise money and quite possibly rock-out in the process.

"In the past, we've had a few open mic nights to raise money, which have not been tremendously successful," says Jordan Faulls, co-organizer of this year's event and member of the Edmonton-based band Fractal Pattern. "This year we decided to put on a rock show and asked a few of my friends in bands."

The show is being co-produced with Kristin Cheung of Vanity Productions, and local bands The Last Deal, The Frosted Tipz, No Hands and Fractal Pattern will be joined by Calgary's Working Tide and The Winks from Vancouver.

The money raised by the show will be given to a group called Justice For Girls, a Vancouver-based charity that assists young women in their day-to-day fight against violence, poverty and racism. The charity assists disadvantaged women and their struggle with the law through legal help, education and law-oriented programs.

The Women's Law Forum has operated in conjunction with Justice For Girls in the past,



MATT FREHNER



NIK BOLIANATZ

GIRL-AID BENEFIT SHOW Fractal Pattern and The Frosted Tipz are two of the bands performing.

and the group has always benefited from these events. Faulls and the WLF are hoping that by putting on a show of interest to Edmonton's sizeable music community will be both financially beneficial, as well as effective in raising the profile of both the Women's Law Forum and Justice For Girls.

The line-up is most definitely eclectic, and Faulls expects the audience to be the same.

"We're expecting a crowd of half 'scenesters' and half lawyers and judges and legal types," says Faulls, who notes that she isn't worried about the "legal types" purchasing tickets and leaving

quickly. "We've always had a lot of support within Edmonton's law community."

Tickets will be available at the door, and are expected to go quickly. Music fans looking for a lively show to benefit the community will not be disappointed with Friday's event, a gig that undeniably features some of Edmonton's top bands and will hopefully raise a fair chunk of money—and even more awareness.

"Response has been very good so far," says an enthusiastic Faulls. "We're trying to promote these groups, but at the same time put on a concert that people will enjoy and support."

Sidetrack grand opening derailed due to absent flooring

MICHAEL LAROCQUE
Entertainment Editor

For those expecting to take in a night of live music at The Sidetrack Café's new location this Friday, the two week wait will have to go on for just a little bit longer.

Due to a derailment of the train carrying the venue's new flooring, The Sidetrack announced Monday that the official grand opening will be moved to Friday, 24 March, with the CD release show of Grassroot Deviation. The planned week of free shows is currently cancelled, with Rodney DeCroo and The Shufflesounders both planning to make up their shows with performances at the Black Dog. While disappointed, entertainment manager and part owner of The Sidetrack Brent Oliver said that the delayed opening was a matter of quality control.

"If we're not going to be opening at 100 per cent, then there's not really a point in us opening at all," said Oliver. "The Sidetrack has too big of a reputation to open and have people not impressed with it, especially when I think a few extra days will pay off in spades in that everything is going to be right when we do open."

Despite his optimism for the success of the eventual opening, Oliver admits disappointment at the sudden change of plans.

"The situation is definitely not ideal," said a tired-sounding Oliver. "It's not something that I wanted to do at all, but again, if we're going to be here for another 25 years, I want to get it right when we open. The Wednesday and Thursday shows are still tentatively set, if we can pull them off, then we'll announce that we'll open a few days early. But right now, we're ready to be at 100 per cent when we open next Friday."

While train derailments aren't unheard of, they're certainly an unusual occurrence, making The Sidetrack's delay all the more painful to not just Oliver, but the hundreds of live music fans



DANA KOMPERDO

IRONY OVERLOAD! A train derailment halted The Sidetrack's flooring delivery, delaying its opening.

who were planning on showing up to the grand opening.

"Tens of thousands of railcars move across Canada every day without incident," said Jim Feeny, a media spokesman for CN rail in Edmonton. "Accidents happen, but rarely, and accidents that affect a customer's goods happen even more rarely."

For all the disappointment, though, one group of friends is getting to see the small silver lining that has come along with the cloud hanging over The Sidetrack's new location. Edmonton band The Grassroot Deviation, previously set to play their show a week after the grand opening, is now the headlining act of the first night at the new location.

"It's terrible for The Mad Bomber Society and the other acts scheduled for that week," says Deviation frontman Brian Parker. "It's unfortunate, but it kind of an exciting twist of events for us. The show is now free, so if you're coming or thinking about coming, there's now no cost."

Parker is understandably excited about their sudden increase in billing, but also about The Sidetrack finally opening its doors.

"It's a big event for The Sidetrack and also for the Edmonton music scene. It's had some of the biggest acts in Canada come through and the only place that has live music every night of the week. It will be a big night for The Sidetrack."

When the venue finally gets to open its doors in a little over a week, Oliver is confident that their patrons will be satisfied that the wait was well worth it. Despite the sudden rush of bad fortune that's hit the delay, Oliver seems to be able to find at least a small bit of humour in one thing: The Sidetrack's grand opening has literally been derailed.

"It would be a lot more funny to me if it wasn't just so ironic," says Oliver, managing a small laugh. "When they first told me this that we got a back order from the company telling us that our flooring had been backordered because of a train derailment—that's almost ridiculous. The irony is not lost on me."



The Hills probably wouldn't watch this

The Hills Have Eyes has all the elements of the original—save for the horror

The Hills Have Eyes

Directed by Alexandre Aja
Starring Aaron Stanford, Ted Levine,
Robert Levine and Emile de Ravin
Now playing

DANA KOMPERDO
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Alexandre Aja's remake of Wes Craven's *The Hills Have Eyes* is your average horror movie. Seriously, there is nothing remarkable about it. The surprise is that there is nothing really too horrible about it either. It's a run-of-the-mill horror flick with pretty much everything you'd expect.

Technically, the story begins in the mid-'40s, when the American government began to test nuclear bombs in the deserts of New Mexico. The only hitch in the plan is that several of the miners currently living in the test zone refuse to evacuate. The trusty government ultimately drops the bombs anyway, causing the area to be filled with radiation, and subsequently creating a band of deformed, murderous and cannibalistic mutants out of the miners and their future offspring. Fifty years later, they harbour some resentment.

The story continues in the present with the Carter family travelling through the desert on their way to California, complete with trailer and pet dogs. The gruff, ex-detective dad, Big Bob Carter (Ted Levine), stops at a sketchy-looking gas station where an elderly, sweaty and all-around shady looking attendant sells them of a shortcut—through the middle of the New Mexico desert. The family—apparently from the friendliest neighbourhood in America, as

they decide to take his advice—pull onto the tiny dirt road and quickly become stranded.

This trusty, if tired, plot produces a film that will satisfy those looking for a scare, while not boring the more experienced moviegoer. If you're looking for another horror classic, however, *The Hills Have Eyes* is best left for dead.

Unfortunately, it's at this point that the film takes that same turn that many other sub-standard horror flicks follow: instead of suspense and tension being used to create actual horror in the audience, the action quickly shifts to bloody violence in order to illicit a similar, though ultimately much weaker, response. One minute the movie seems to be falling into a flowing rhythm that's drawing the viewer in for a scare, only for the scene's climax to be a bloody, carnage-filled shot that adds little to the characters, story or to the horror that the movie is supposedly going for.

For the most part, the roles are filled by bit-part actors (Emile de Ravin is likely the most noticeable as Claire on *Lost*) making it difficult to determine the order in which each will be killed. While alive, however,

the acting is surprisingly better than what most would expect from a horror film. One might attribute this to a solid story based on Craven's 1977 original—a film that has gained a significant cult following since its release—and as Aja sticks so closely to the source material, this is almost surely the case. Unfortunately, the skillful horror scenes Craven is famous for were not updated as faithfully as the script. The movie succumbs to the usual horror faux pas, with the greatest being a group of mutants murdering everyone who passes by and yet remaining unnoticed for more than 50-some years.

The Hills Have Eyes is not just meant to frighten, however; it attempts to go deeper than that. The American government making its own people, Big Bob the Republican and his son-in-law, Doug Bukowski (Aaron Stanford) constantly at odds; this begins to look like there might just be a political message to the movie. Unfortunately, much like the Dawn of the Dead original and remake, if the 1977 version had any message, it's all but lost in this new version among gory shrieks and heavy-breathing mutants. What's left of the political stance is a faint glimmer at the beginning and end of the film, which will likely be overlooked by the vast majority of the teens who will flock to see it.

This trusty, if tired, plot produces a film that will satisfy those looking for a scare, while not boring the more experienced moviegoer. If you're looking for another horror classic, however, *The Hills Have Eyes* is best left for dead.



Tom Wilson

Dog Years
True North Records
www.tomwilson.net

ADAM GAUMONT
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Tom Wilson is a man of many faces; the former lead singer of Junkhouse, he's now a leading member of Blackie & the Rodeo Kings, and now with Dog Years has ventured into solo territory.

Well, "solo" might be a bit of a stretch, as Wilson is backed by a full band on every track. He gets away with hogging the titular spotlight by playing along with various guest musicians throughout the album, most notably his producer Colin Linden, as well as Rosanne Cash (of Johnny Cash fame).

Also appearing on the album, albeit posthumously, are many '60s blues-rock luminaries. For example, the guitar work on the opening track, "Super Sun Natural," recalls hazy

electric riffs of *Let It Bleed*-era Rolling Stones, while the lead riff on "Because of You" is cribbed straight from Bob Dylan's "Obviously 5 Believers." What's more, the opening of "Little Domino" bears an uncanny resemblance to the Beatles' "Get Back," while Wilson's own bluesy bottleneck slide-playing, coupled with the harp-blowing, tambourine-tapping rhythms, evokes the '60s blues-rock sound throughout.

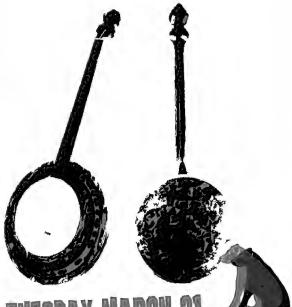
Despite his many faces, however, Wilson has consistently proven to have one strong, solid voice throughout his career. His trademark deep, gritty vocals shine through on every track, churning out thoroughly original fare, and not simply rehashed '60s rock.

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Nose and breasts: together at last

Edmonton rockers Broken Nose headline this weekend's breast cancer benefit

Broken Nose

Driven by Compassion Benefit Concert
Saturday, 18 March at 8pm
Starlite Room

LISA SQUIRE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The thought of breast cancer fundraising might bring around imagery of pink ribbons and door-to-door campaigning, but come this Saturday the job to raise money is going to take a notably harder edge. Edmonton rockers Broken Nose will be headlining a concert to raise money for breast cancer research this Saturday, and even if you haven't yet helped to raise money for breast cancer, Broken Nose frontman Ryan Vestby might put it best: "Who doesn't like boobs, right?"

"A friend of ours put on the show, and her mother-in-law has breast cancer," continues Vestby. "It's the type of thing that everyone has been touched by, and we played last year and it was a huge success. We were asked back and we're more than willing to play—it's something that's important to us."

While supporting a good cause, music lovers can get a chance to check out one of Edmonton's long-standing punk acts. Their latest album, *Goodbye Prudence*, was released in late October of 2005 to a positive reception from fans and critics. Their fourth record, Vestby notes that *Prudence* is different than their previous attempts, mainly in that it's the most seasoned of their albums.

"Recording the first album, all you cared about was getting every-



thing recorded," says Vestby. "It's one of those things now that we put so much time into creating good songs that sound unbelievable."

Those "unbelievable" tracks have garnered the band solid following in their hometown, not to mention around Canada from numerous tours and shows played throughout the band's ten-plus-year existence. But for all the band's energy and crazy stage antics, their fans have so far outdone them, if not by proudly showing off an actual broken nose, then by marking themselves a permanent fan of the group.

"They're definitely diehard," says Vestby. "There's people that like us and people that love us. This guy tattooed our logo right on his neck, like right on his Adam's apple! I was like, 'God you tattooed our logo on your neck! That's going to be there for your

children when you're 50, for parent teacher interviews and shit. It's a prime example of how diehard these people are."

For their sacrifice, though, Broken Nose strives to deliver. The band has an intensity and hard edge that pulsates in their highly energized shows, and the band describes their performances as "legendary parties not to be missed," with loyal fans often flocking to their high-energy gigs. But even with a name like Broken Nose, a dark, mean-edged metal band is definitely not what to expect from these guys.

"We say fuck lots, but it's in more of a funny dumb-ass way," laughs Vestby. "When you show that you love your music and you're not afraid to just be stupid, let yourself go and not take it too seriously, then everyone else can just a little more relaxed."



NEAL WILDING

KISS MY BRASS Canadian indie group The Most Serene Republic stopped by a packed PowerPlant last week on their first North American headlining tour.

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Celebrity knockouts: fighting the stars

As showbiz personalities permeate media outlets over the globe, tempers are bound to boil over. A&E staff unleash on the celebs they most want to fight

Bon Carter — Tim Story

In the past few years, comic book fans have become accustomed to stellar adaptations of their beloved characters. The commonality of films like *X-Men*, *Spider-Man*, and *Batman Begins* is directors who respected the source material, and knew that decades of stories would provide the basis for the films, rather than a slick, soulless script and a heartless production.

Imagine the disgust of comic book fans when it was announced that Tim Story, director of such schlock as *Barbershop* and *Taxi*, would be the one adapting *Fantastic Four* on to the big screen. Fans were less surprised by the boring, clichéd and cringe-inducing film that followed. Story has been announced as the director of a sequel, giving him another opportunity to fully sully the reputation of these legendary characters. This is why I would like to fight Tim Story, so that maybe *Fantastic Four* fans can see an honest and heartfelt interpretation of this beloved comic team on screen. As The Thing would say, it's clopperin' time.

Scott Lilwall — Nancy Grace

There are so many show business "personalities" that deserve a good helping of schoolyard justice. But the person I would most like to fight under the monkey bars is Nancy Grace. Former dumb-ass criminal prosecutor, current dumb-ass pundit, Grace first shrieked her way in to the spotlight as a legal "expert" on Larry King Live.

Whether it was because of her selective knowledge of the law, total blindness to opposing points of view or a voice that could crack the foundation of a house, someone decided that she should get her own show on CNN. Probably because that person hates us. All of us.

She sensationalizes the law. She talks over anyone that dares disagree with her. Her opinions are based on pure emotion, and damn the facts. And, a last name of "Grace" is the greatest irony of all. Like if Josef Stalin's surname was Compassion.

Nancy Grace, you have been found guilty of First Degree Arrogance. Your sentence: a good, old-fashioned beat-down.

Iris Tse — Britney Spears

You know, Britney, I used to like you. I didn't go as far as buying your CDs, but I did like you enough to secretly sing "Oops ... I Did It Again" in the

shower, and I think I still have a video tape of you and that albino python somewhere. Your career was hot, girlfriend, and you looked smokin'.

What happened then? Well, I kinda know what happened—justin dumped you and told Barbra Walters that he took your virginity. Had my mousketeer boyfriend dumped me for some simply-fucked chick, I'd be pretty upset too. I don't think it would come to walking out of a public bathroom bare foot, but I probably would eat a lot of Cheetos, stop going to the gym and date inappropriate men, too, for a while.

"For not disappearing 15 years ago, and for contaminating the world with songs that make guys with mullets cheer when they hear them on the radio, Jon Bon, one day I'm going to beat the holy living hell out of you."

CHRIS O'LEARY

But no, you just let yourself go and rebound to Kevin Federline, a herpes-riddled douchebag with two children at home and a career going nowhere. In fact, you were the one who courted him and dragged him off to go on tour with you. Then you had to marry him and carry his child.

I would take the chance to slam some sense into you if I wasn't so worried that getting within such a close proximity would give me knocked-up by your loser boy-toy.

Chris O'Leary — Jon Bon Jovi

There's an endless list of celebrities who I'd like to fight, but anyone who knows me knows that there's one celeb I'd take over all others, and that man is Jon Bon Jovi.

Jon Bon, as I've come to know and loathe him as is, the ultimate '80s rocker who should have gone away 15 years ago but somehow hasn't. His group's ability to make sappy ballads carried them into the mid-'90s, where they should have, by all accounts, finally faded into tightly-panted obscurity. As we all know, though, Jon Bon's second career was

just starting.

Like an airborne flu, Jon Bon Jovi is inescapable. Every crappy bar in town plays "Livin' on a Prayer" every fucking weekend; his old hits are in heavy rotation on bad radio stations like FM 41; once a month, TBS plays Pay It Forward on continuous loop and Sex and the City (on which he guest starred) is in syndication on, like, eight channels.

For not disappearing 15 years ago, and for contaminating the world with songs that make guys with mullets cheer when they hear them on the radio, Jon Bon, one day I'm going to beat the holy living hell out of you.

Amanda Ash — Kiera Knightly

If I were to face-off with somebody in show business, it would undoubtedly be Kiera Knightly for her role as Domino Harvey in *Domino*. Her mannerisms and figure simply don't suit her combative role as a trash-talking, ass-kicking bounty hunter, and by fighting Ms Knightly, I would like to prove that, if he's incapable of beating my body into a lifeless piece of tenderized meat, she shouldn't be allowed to play such a militant female.

On-screen characters and their respective actors should ultimately be analogous in on way or another, and from my point of view, Knightly lacks a good number of commonalities with Domino Harvey. However, since this is all speculation and there are no substantial grounds to rightly convict Ms Knightly for her crime, fighting the stick-thin Brit would either prove or disprove my assumptions, and perhaps set the standards for future female stars who think their twig-like bodies and polite personalities are appropriate for action films.

Tyson Durst — Jimmy Fallon

For the fact that Jimmy Fallon seems to be turning up everywhere, I wouldn't mind taking a swing at this overrated, no-talent hack. Apparently, Pepsi was so impressed with *Taxi* that they feel he should be their spokesman in a commercial that has already cost me two television sets, destroyed via kung-fu kicks of death.

After inevitably defeating Mr Fallon with my advanced skills in nunchucking and annoying-celebrity-bitch-slapping, I would then rent a crane and literally drop a New York taxi on his twitching body while looking at the camera and giggling. Oh, imagine my poetic justice is sweet.

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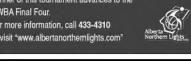
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CONGRATULATIONS!

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Amanda Henry

Vice President (Operations and Finance)

Chris Cunningham

Vice President (External)

Dave Cournoyer

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Omer Yusuf

Board of Governors Representative

Chris Samuel

Plebsite Winners:

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NO

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R.A. Maitland & Associates Ltd., Western Canada's largest independent research firm, requires PT interviewers. Absolutely no sales involved. Flexible schedule good for students. Over \$10/hour to start + bonuses. Please fax or e-mail cover letter and resume to Joanne Parslow, fax (780)414-9047, e-mail joanne.parslow@ra-maitland.com.

Scoria Pool hiring lifeguards, instructors, cashiers. E-mail resume to office@parksandrecreation.com or PO Box 60190, U of A Post office, Edmonton, T6G 2S5. Phn 498-8758, attn: Heather.

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- March 1, 2006 (International applicants)

Courses starting in September:

- June 5, 2006 (International applicants)

▪ July 7, 2006 (Canadian applicants)

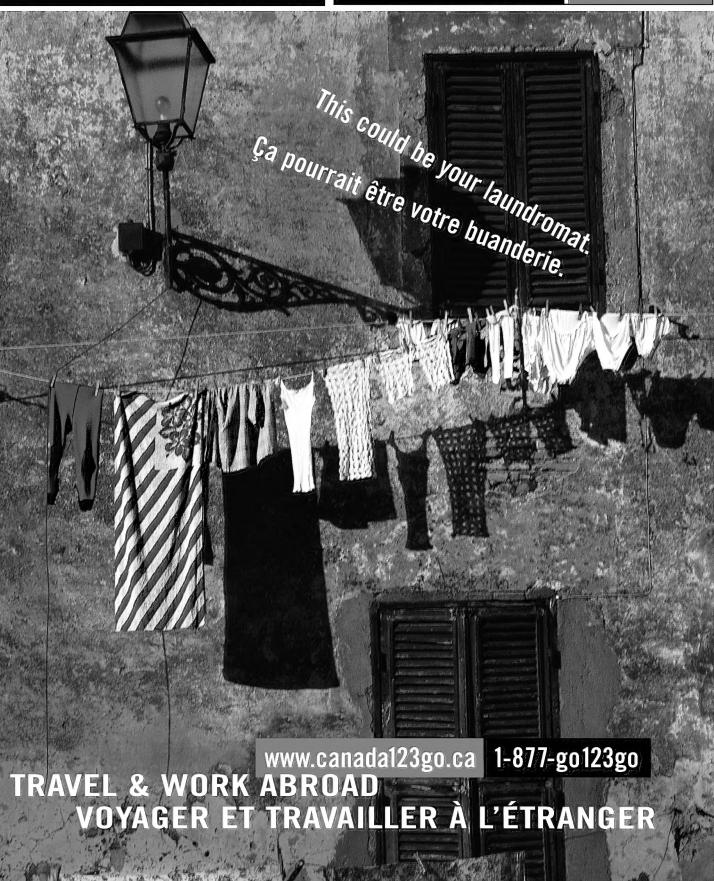


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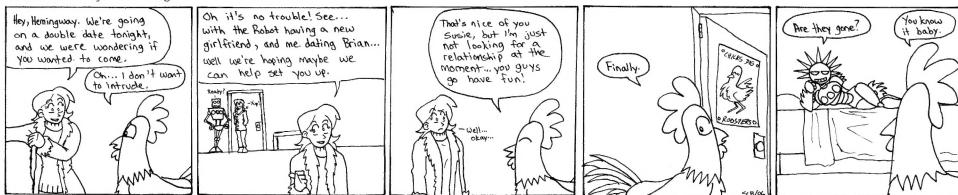
HALEY'S COMIX by Mike Robertson



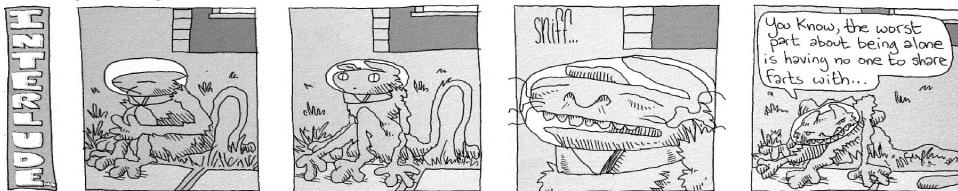
COMPUTER BLUES by Kevin Ng



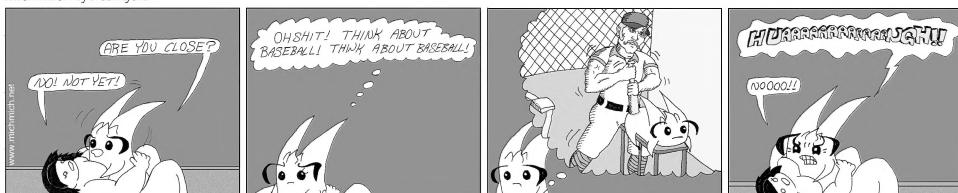
LOGIC PUZZLE by Scott C Bourgeois



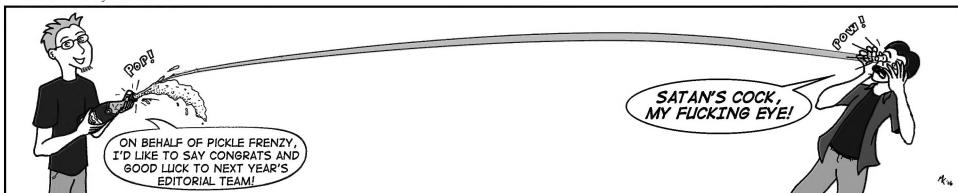
SPACE CAT by Fish Griwkowsky



MICH MICH by Shaun Lyons



PICKLE FRENZY by Mike Kendrick



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